

Application No. 10/074,162
Amendment dated January 14, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action dated November 5, 2003

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

In the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A lighting apparatus for receiving an elongated light source, comprising:

a monolithic elongated member including a first material and a second material, the first material being at least semi-transparent and the second material being substantially non-transparent, the elongated member having a cavity for receiving the elongated light source, the cavity being at least partially defined by at least a portion of the first material that extends from the cavity to an outer surface of the elongated member.

2. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the cavity is at least partially defined by at least a portion of the second material.

3. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the second material is at least partially reflective.

4. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 3 wherein the second material includes a surface that is shaped to help reflect light toward the first material.

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5. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the shaped surface is parabolic in shape.
6. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the first material includes a surface that is shaped as a lens.
7. (Previously Presented) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a slit that extends between the cavity and the exterior of the elongated member to facilitate insertion and/or extraction of the elongated light source into/from the cavity along a length of the elongated member.
8. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the portion of the first material that at least partially defines the cavity extends to two or more separate outer surface regions of the elongated member, wherein at least part of the outer surface between the two or more separate regions is substantially non-transparent.
9. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the first material and the second material are integrally formed.
10. (Previously Presented) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein

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the first material and the second material are formed separately and subsequently integrally secured together into a single piece.

11. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the elongated light source is an electro-luminescent wire.

12. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the elongated light source is a linear emitting fiber.

13. (Previously Presented) A lighting apparatus for receiving an elongated light source, comprising:

a first elongated piece;

a second elongated piece;

at least a portion of the first elongated piece being transparent or semi-transparent;

at least a portion of the second elongated piece being substantially non-transparent;

the first elongated piece and the second elongated piece defining a cavity for receiving the elongated light source; and

at least one of the first elongated piece and the second elongated piece having an elongated slit along at least part of its length that extends between the cavity and the exterior of the lighting apparatus, the slit adapted to facilitate insertion and/or extraction of the elongated

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light source into/from the cavity along a length of the lighting apparatus.

14. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the first elongated piece and the second elongated piece are integrally formed.

15. (Unchanged) A lighting apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the first elongated piece and the second elongated piece are separately formed and subsequently secured together.

16. (Unchanged) A method for making an elongated member for receiving an elongated light source, the method comprising the steps of:

co-extruding an elongated member with a first material and a second material, the first material being at least semi-transparent and the second material being substantially non-transparent, the elongated member having a cavity for receiving the elongated light source, the cavity being at least partially defined by at least a portion of the first material that extends from the cavity to an outer surface of the elongated member.

17. (Unchanged) A method according to claim 16 wherein the cavity is also at least partially defined by at least a portion of the second material.

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18. (Unchanged) A method according to claim 16 wherein the second material is at least partially reflective.

19. (Unchanged) A method according to claim 18 wherein the second material includes a surface that is shaped to help reflect light toward the first material.

20. (Unchanged) A method according to claim 19 wherein the shaped surface is parabolic in shape.

21. (Unchanged) A method according to claim 16 wherein the first material includes a surface that is shaped as a lens.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16 further comprising the step of forming an elongated slit that extends between the cavity and the exterior of the elongated member to facilitate insertion and/or extraction of the elongated light source into/from the cavity along a length of the elongated member.

23. (Unchanged) A method according to claim 16 wherein the portion of the first material that at least partially defines the cavity extends to two or more separate outer surface regions of the elongated member, wherein at least part of the outer surface between the two or

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more separate regions is substantially non-transparent.

24. (Previously Presented) A lighting apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the elongated light source includes a glow-in-the-dark material.

25. (Canceled)

26. (New) A lighting apparatus for receiving an elongated light source, comprising:
an elongated member including a first material and a second material, the first material being at least semi-transparent and the second material being substantially non-transparent, the elongated member having a cavity for receiving the elongated light source, the cavity being at least partially defined by at least a portion of the first material that extends from the cavity to an outer surface of the elongated member; and

a slit that extends between the cavity and the exterior of the elongated member to facilitate insertion and/or extraction of the elongated light source into/from the cavity along a length of the elongated member.